

road question? We had it in our platform in three campaigns before he ever mentioned it in speech or message, and because we had it in our platform we drove the railroad managers out of the democratic party, and they went over to the republican party, and Mr. Roosevelt, when he was nominated by the convention, without opposition, in his platform, which he might have made to suit himself, said not one word about the regulation of the railroads.

And then take his attitude on the labor question. In a speech the other day he spoke of his record as compared to that of Mr. Wilson. Let me give you his record, for I know it better than he does himself—at least I will tell you more about it than he will tell you.

We had in our platform, four years ago, a plank demanding a department of labor, with a secretary in the cabinet, and if I had been elected four years ago we would now have a department of labor, and a secretary in the president's cabinet sitting at his counsel table to protect the interests of the wage earners of this country.

But, my friends, while that was in my platform it was not in Mr. Taft's platform, and Mr. Roosevelt, instead of helping me to get this for the laboring man, fastened upon this country, Mr. Taft, the worst enemy that labor ever had upon the United States bench. That is what he did

four years ago. He now puts this plank in his platform and he doesn't give us credit for having had it four years ago. Talk about comparing his record with that of Governor Wilson!

Governor Wilson has done more for the laboring men of New Jersey in the two years that he has been governor than Mr. Roosevelt has done for labor in the twenty-five years that he has been in public life in this country. But, my friends, he now says that he wants the people to rule. Where did he get the idea? It was in our platform four years ago—let the people rule. He didn't see it then; he couldn't understand it then, but now he takes it bodily out of our platform without putting quotation marks around it, and makes it his slogan, and then he takes the bandanna handkerchief that Thurman gave us as an emblem twenty-four years ago to complete his outfit.

Now I have briefly run over a few of these reforms, but I am not through. I want now to tell you where he has been, and as long as Mr. Beveridge is up close to the throne, I think I might associate him with Mr. Roosevelt, when I tell you where Mr. Roosevelt was, for they have been together.

I ran for the presidency sixteen years ago. Does anybody doubt that Wall street was against me? If there is any Roosevelt man that doubts that Wall street was against me sixteen years ago, let us hear him say so. Well, I didn't think anybody would deny that Wall street was against me at that time, and I want to tell you that Mr. Roosevelt was with Wall street, and Mr. Beveridge was with Wall street also sixteen years ago, and against us in that fight.

I ran again twelve years ago, and Wall street was again against me, and Mr. Roosevelt was with Wall street and Mr. Beveridge was with Wall street also. Eight years ago Wall street helped elect Mr. Roosevelt president. Four years ago Wall street helped to elect Mr. Taft president, and Mr. Beveridge helped Mr. Roosevelt and Wall street at that time.

There are four campaigns, covering the last sixteen years. Two years ago Mr. Roosevelt went down to New York and presided at the republican convention there, and as temporary chairman he listened without protest to a resolution, passed without opposition, eulogizing the administration of William Howard Taft. Now, that is the same Mr. Taft who is running for the presidency this year; but that was two years ago.

Where was Mr. Roosevelt nine months ago? He was sitting silent and sullen in his tent, while brave Bob La Follette was trying to rescue the republican party from the grasp of William Howard Taft. Backed by the progressives, Mr. La Follette was trying to redeem the republican party from the grip of the reactionaries. Bob La Follette, the prince of progressives, who has done a hundred times more to make the republican party progressive than your ex-Senator Beveridge has ever done—and yet, my friends, Mr. Roosevelt, who now organizes a new party to defeat Mr. Taft, refused to help Bob La Follette defeat Mr. Taft for the nomination. Taft is where he was nine months ago. But I recognize the fact that a man can change in nine months.

And so I come down a little farther. I come down to last June. Where was he then? He was at Chicago. Organizing a new party? No. He was a candidate for president in the republican party, and he went there with two speeches in his pocket—one to be delivered if he was nominated, the other if he was not nominated. Do you doubt that if he had been nominated he would have accepted it? Do you doubt that if he

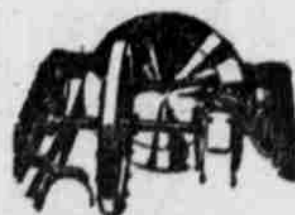


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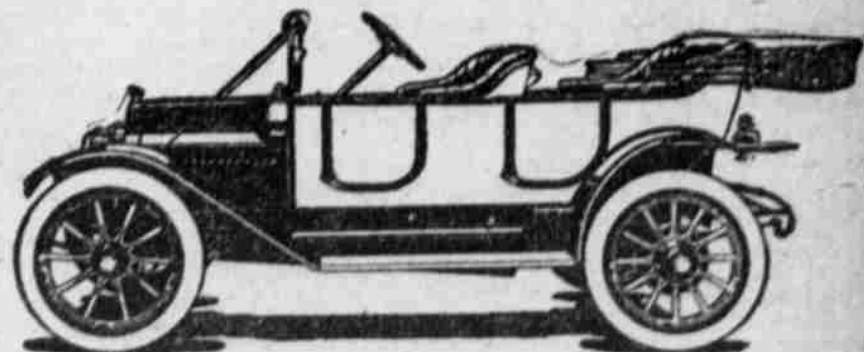
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